

relocated the church and congregation to 124th Street and 7th Avenue. This building is known as the "Mother Church" of the Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In two short years, the indebtedness of the church was lifted and on Christmas day in 1947, the mortgage was burned.

It was in 1944 that Bishop Lawson sent Bishop Bonner to Detroit to pastor the First Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It was a storefront. Today, it is a 2,500-seat edifice known as Solomon's Temple. Bishop William Lee Bonner was born on November 12, 1921 in Bolden County Georgia, to Emmett and Janie Bonner. Bishop Bonner was married to the late Ethel Mae Smith Bonner. He is the father of two children, Ethel Mae Bonner Archer and William Lee Bonner, Jr.

Bishop Bonner's ministry began in the 1940s under the tutelage of the late Bishop Robert C. Lawson, (1883–1961), founder of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith. His first pastorate was the Green Avenue Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Brooklyn, New York. In 1961, upon the death of Bishop Lawson, Bishop Bonner became the pastor of the 3,000-member mother church, the Greater Refuge Temple in Harlem, New York City.

Apostle Bonner currently pastors churches in Detroit, Michigan, New York City, Washington, D.C., Jackson, Mississippi, and Columbia, South Carolina. He is the Chief Apostle and Senior Prelate of the General Assembly of the Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc. This is an international body of churches. Under his administration, the assembly has grown from 155 churches in 1961 to over 500 churches and missions throughout the world.

He has faithfully kept the charge of the founder Bishop Lawson, to "Add Thou to It". Bishop Bonner received his religious education and the Doctor of Divinity through the Church of Christ Bible Institute in New York City. Listed in "Who's Who in Religion" In 1985, Bishop Bonner's ministry is based on prayer and faith in God. His message is one of hope and deliverance. He believes that those who pray can expect a miracle.

On December 12, 1989, Bishop William L. Bonner founded The Refuge Temple of Washington, DC. The first services were held at Days Inn, at 12th and K Streets, NW. The next year, Kelly Miller Junior High School became the church's final temporary home. On June 1, 1991, the first service was held at the new edifice for Refuge Temple Church.

On July 20, 1993, Bishop Bonner established The Refuge Temple of Columbia, South Carolina. It was organized with only 22 members and grew to 700 in 3 months. The church is located on 12½ acres in the Eau Claire section of Columbia. Pastor Bonner's ministry in Columbia also consists of the Family Life Center, Retirement Community and the W. L. Bonner Bible College.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in bestowing this special congressional honor to Chief Apostle William L. Bonner's on "National COOLJC Day" at the Greater Refuge Temple Church in Harlem, NY.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP WILLIAM L. BONNER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable man who has dedicated his life to serving the Creator and building an international fellowship of true disciples. Bishop William Lee Bonner will be honored on the occasion of his 90th birthday on Saturday, November 19, 2011 in Columbia, South Carolina.

William Lee Bonner was born on November 12, 1921 in Bolden County, Georgia to Emmett and Janie Bonner. He received his religious training and the Doctor of Divinity through the Church of Christ Bible Institute in New York.

As a young man in the 1940s, Bishop Bonner answered the call into the ministry. He was a protégé of the late Bishop Robert C. Lawson, founder of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith. His first pastorate was the Green Avenue Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In 1944, Bishop Bonner was sent to Detroit to lead the First Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ. When he arrived, the congregation was worshipping in a store front. Today, the current sanctuary holds 2,500 parishioners in an edifice known as Solomon's Temple.

When Bishop Lawson passed away in 1961, Bishop Bonner was called to lead the 3,000-member mother church, the Greater Refuge Temple, in Harlem, New York. As the church's new titular head, Bishop Bonner created a Board of Apostles to govern the churches. He also formed two other groups, the Board of Bishops and the Board of Presbyters, both of which are accountable to the Board of Apostles. Under this new structure, Bishop Bonner serves as the Chief Apostle and Senior Prelate of the General Assembly of the Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.

During his leadership, the church grew tremendously. In 1989, Bishop Bonner founded the Refuge Temple of Washington, D.C. In the beginning services were held in a Days Inn hotel, but moved shortly afterwards to Kelly Miller Junior High School. Less than a year afterwards the church broke ground on a permanent home. On June 1, 1991, the first service was held in the Refuge Temple Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and they continue to this day at the 56th Street location.

The ground breaking for the Refuge Temple of Columbia, South Carolina took place on July 20, 1993. At that time, the congregation was comprised of 22 members. Within three years, they grew to 700 members. The ministry has expanded to include a Family Life Center, a retirement community and the W.L. Bonner Bible College. The church's services are aired on Sunday mornings at 6:00 am on WIS-TV in Columbia. Previously recorded services can also be heard nightly on Columbia radio station WMFV.

Under Bishop Bonner's leadership, the assembly has grown from 155 churches in 1961 to over 500 churches and missions throughout the world. He currently pastors churches in Detroit; New York; Washington, D.C.; Jackson, Mississippi; and Columbia, South Carolina. He

has faithfully kept the charge of the founder Bishop Lawson to, "Add Thou To It."

Bishop Bonner and the late Ethel Mae Smith Bonner were parents to Ethel Mae Bonner Archer and William Lee Bonner, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in congratulating Bishop Bonner as he celebrates his 90th birthday. He has been a Christian luminary and has served his faith and its congregants with tremendous dedication. Bishop Bonner has touched many people through his great ministries, and is very deserving of this recognition.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF MRS. FRANZISKA HOLZER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Mrs. Franziska Holzer, a long time and active member of the German-American community in the Greater Cleveland area.

Mrs. Holzer was born on April 15, 1927. After World War II, she met her future husband Josef, in Deggendorf, Bavaria. The two were married in 1949 and had a daughter, Ilse. In 1952, the Holzer family immigrated to Cleveland, Ohio. The couple would eventually settle in North Royalton, Ohio, where they enjoyed the rest of their 62 year marriage.

Upon settling in the Cleveland area, the Holzers became extremely active in the German-American community. Mr. Holzer would eventually become the Regional President of the National Donauschwaben Organization and led the building of the Donauschwaben Society of Cleveland's German-American Cultural Center at Lenau Park. Much of his success is credited to the support offered by his loving wife, Franziska.

I offer my most sincere condolences to her husband, Josef; daughter, Ilse; grandchildren, Lisa, Brian and David; and great-grandchildren, Peter and Alexandra.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mrs. Franziska Holzer, her devotion to her family and Cleveland's German-American community will be sorely missed and thoughtfully remembered for years to come.

HONORING CAPTAIN JACK WILSON FOR HIS LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Captain Jack Wilson of Willow Springs, Illinois, a 100 year-old veteran who landed at Omaha Beach during World War II, who I am helping to honor at a veterans' dinner in Bridgeview, IL on November 13.

Captain Wilson began his military career serving in the Army National Guard from 1931 to 1940. There, he served in the distinguished 202nd Coast Artillery, anti-aircraft division. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, his unit was